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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

## PAPERS SCORE DEFICIENCIES IN TRADE NETWORK

Several articles appearing in the Soviet press during September criticize various aspects of consumers' trade in Moscow, the Karelo-Finnish Republic, the Moldavian SSR, and the Azerbaydzhan SSR.

The chief criticism is directed against trade and marketing organizations for not taking proper account of the needs of consumers. An article appearing in Sovetskaya Moldaviya blames this on "the mechanical distribution of goods, a carryover from the period of rationing" which "results in the gradual stockpiling of unneeded and unwanted goods in stores and warehouses" (1). Other articles trace the deficiency in the supply of consumers' goods to the unsatisfactory production of local enterprises and the inefficient organization of consumer cooperatives. In the Karelo-Finnish Republic there are shortages of snowshoes, sweaters, children's felt boots and warm gloves, according to an article in Leninskoye Znamya. This article reports that "of 40 industrial cooperatives 15 are consistently failing to fulfill their quotas," and that as a result, "the Republic has been compelled to import from Leningrad such items as washboards and kerosene lamps, all of which should have been produced locally." The situation is aggravated by the influx of newcomers seeking to settle in the Republic, says the paper (2).

An article appearing in Moskovskiy Bol'shevik reports an increase in trade but notes some deficiencies in the shipment of goods from wholesale bases. It also criticizes the practice of delivering perishable goods just before the stores close (3).

The Ministry of Trade in Moldavia is blamed for ignoring consumers' needs in an article in Sovetskaya Moldavia. As a result of the poor organization "approximately half of the goods of Moldavian consumer's cooperatives is, and has been for some time, held up in wholesale warehouses, inter-regional bases and regional consumer's cooperative bases." The article further complains that the Ministry of Trade has poor liaison with the various areas and is slow in learning the demands of the consumers (1).

The newspaper Bakinskiy Rabochiy in the Azerbaydzhan SSR reports that "commodities do not reach the population in time, obligatory minimum varieties of goods are not maintained in shops, and trade advertisements are poorly composed." The paper also notes the shortage of goods in rural communities and charges that some shops are



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empty. "Unsatisfactory quality of goods manufactured in local enterprises" states the report, "is a serious obstacle to trade." The leadership of the trade network, especially of the rural regions, is criticized for being more concerned with discussing the deficiencies of trade organizations than in remedying them (4).

In all these papers party organizations are generally called upon to remove the shortcomings and to improve programs for increased production of consumers' goods.

SOURCES

1. Sovetskaya Moldaviya, 30 Sep 49

2. Leninskoye Znamya, 30 Sep 49

3. Moskovskiy Bol'shevik, No 229, 28 Sep 49

4. Bakinskiy Rabochiy, No 191, 28 Sep 49

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